

U.S.S.N. 09/617,067

CLAIMS:

- B/sub C1*
1. (Previously Amended) A system for operating power machines, comprising:
 - a. a plurality of power machines, the power machines each comprising control circuitry coupled thereto; and
 - b. a remote means for actuating the power machines comprising:
 - i. a means for monitoring a market price of electricity;
 - ii. a means for monitoring a market price of hydrocarbon fuels;
 - iii. a means for calculating the difference between the market price of electricity and the market price of hydrocarbon fuels; andwherein when the remote means for actuating the power machines transmits an actuation signal to the power machines, the control circuitry evaluates local data stored therein prior to actuating the power machines.
 2. (Original) The system of claim 1, where in the means for actuating the power machine network comprises transmitting an actuation signal across a communications means to a power machine.
 3. (Previously Canceled)
 4. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 2, wherein the actuation signal comprises a remote override signal causing the power machine to turn on or turn off.
 5. (Original) The system of claim 4, further comprising a means for reading data from a meter.
 6. (Original) The system of claim 5, further comprising a means for reading data related to the operational performance of the power machine.


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7. (Original) The system of claim 6, further comprising a means for reading the local energy rate structure.

8. (Original) The system of claim 7, further comprising a means to calculate the load demand and to print and prepare a billing statement.

9. (Previously Canceled)

10. (Previously Amended) A system for generating power machine actuation data, comprising:

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- a. a plurality of power machines, the power machines each comprising control circuitry coupled thereto, wherein the control circuitry comprises:
 - i. a means for monitoring local data; and
 - ii. a means of considering electricity generation factors;
 - b. a remote means for actuating the power machines comprising:
 - i. a means of comparing the market price of electricity and hydrocarbon fuel;
 - ii. a means of transmitting an actuation signal; and
 - iii. a means of transmitting an override signal,
- wherein the control circuitry evaluates the local data upon receipt of the actuation signal;
further wherein the control circuitry omits evaluation of the local data upon receipt of the override signal.

11. (Original) The system of claim 10, further comprising a means for aggregating power to sell on a power market.

12. (Original) The system of claim 11, further comprising a means for generating a billing statement.

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13. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the electricity generation factor is selected from the group consisting of market rate structure, peak shaving information, load shedding information and information relating to the ability to sell power to the grid.

14. (Original) The system of claim 13, wherein the system operates in an environment selected from the group consisting of a traditional environment, a transitional environment, and a competitive environment.

15. (Original) The system of claim 14, further comprising a means to calculate the load demand and to print and prepare a billing statement.

16. (Original) The system of claim 15, further comprising a means for selling power to the grid.

17. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein the system participates in load shedding.

18. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein the system participates in peak shaving.

19. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein the data is selected from the group consisting of electricity prices, hydrocarbon prices, resource rate structure, power machine efficiency, power machine operating characteristics, futures prices, environmental data, regulatory rules, load demand, and weather.

20. (Presently Amended) A method of actuating a distributed generation network, comprising the steps of:

- a. providing at least one power machine capable of connecting to a power grid and a load, the at least one power machine having control circuitry and local communications circuitry;
- b. providing a communication link to the power machine;
- c. monitoring the market prices of electricity and hydrocarbon fuels;
- d. comparing the prices of electricity and hydrocarbon fuels; and

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e. transmitting an actuation signal to the power machine,
wherein the control circuitry evaluates local data upon receipt of the actuation
signal,
further wherein the control circuitry determines whether power is available from
the grid, and if power is not available from the grid, the control circuit isolates the
load from the grid.

21. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 15, further comprising licensing power
machines.

22. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 16, further comprising monitoring the
operational condition of the power machine